KARAKURI CIRCUS

VOL. 33

Staff :

TRANSLATION :
- KAIDU

REDRAWING :
- MARLLEY/STEFE/JUVII

TYPESETTING :
- IIIIK

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NAKAMACHI SCANLATION

Act 7 –
Before the summer festival

FINE, IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE! I JUST ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH CIRCUS PEOPLE IN MY EXCEPTIONAL LIFE!!
THEY AREN'T BAD PEOPLE... THEY JUST LIKE TO PLAY PRANKS...
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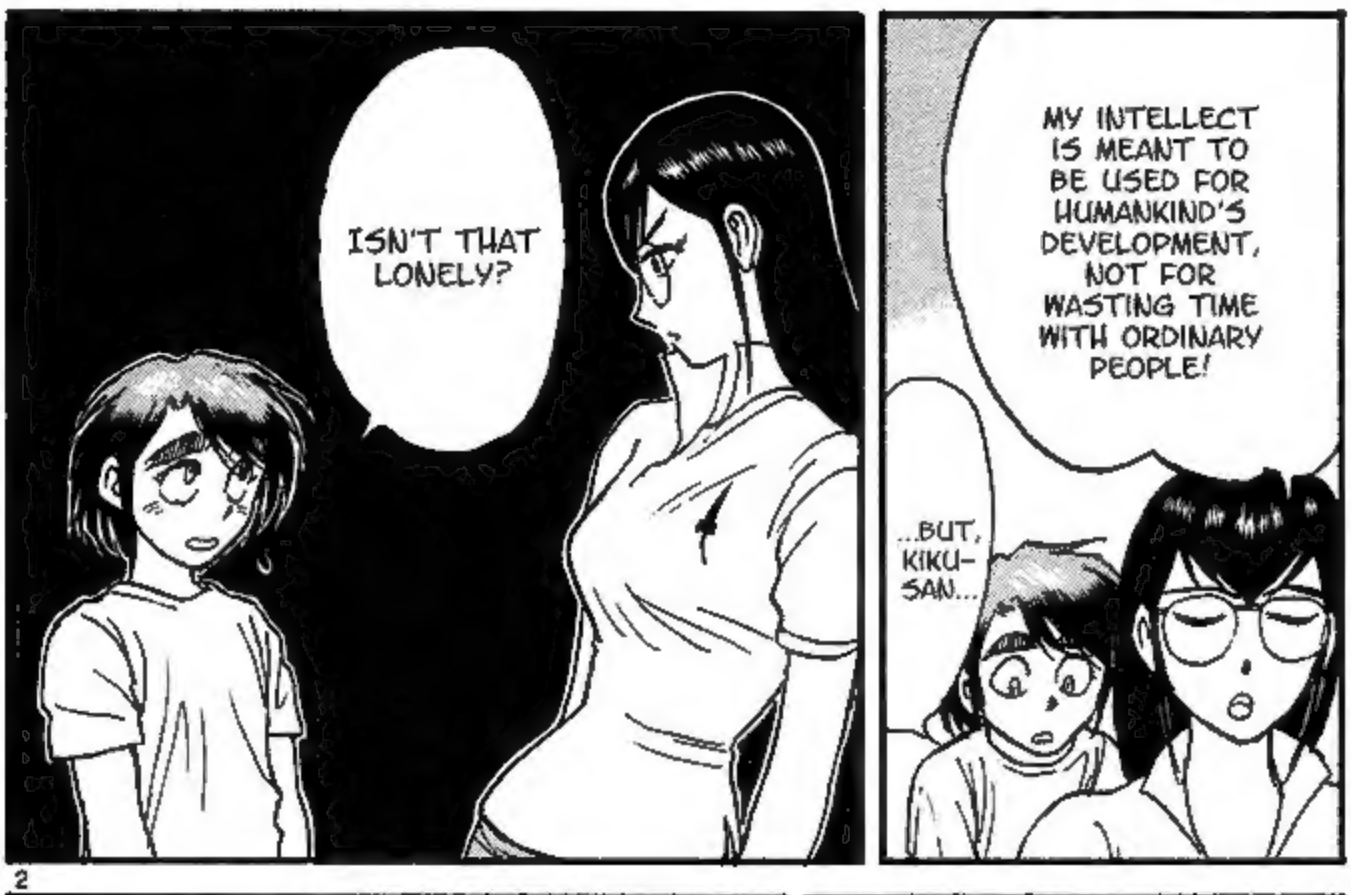
ISN'T THAT LONELY?
MY INTELLECT IS MEANT TO BE USED FOR HUMANKIND'S DEVELOPMENT, NOT FOR WASTING TIME WITH ORDINARY PEOPLE!
...BUT, KIKU-SAN...

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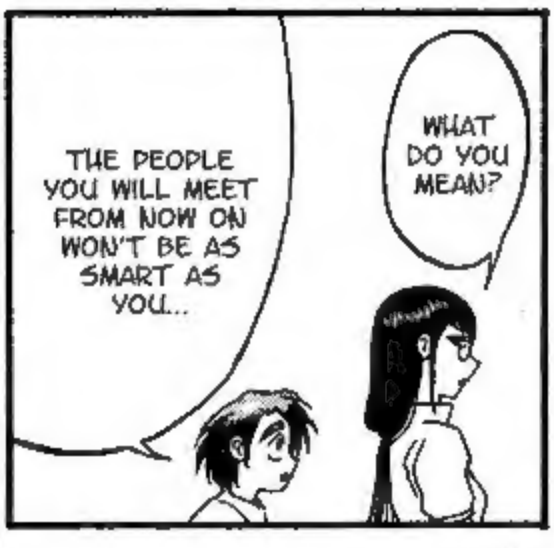
THEN, IF YOU KEEP LIVING AVOIDING THOSE PEOPLE... YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY FRIENDS.
I... I GUESS SO...


THE PEOPLE YOU WILL MEET FROM NOW ON WON'T BE AS SMART AS YOU...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BUT MAKING FRIENDS AND BEING KIND TO THEM MAKES ME HAPPY...

I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING THAT ONLY I CAN DO...

...I WONDER ...

HMPH... I CAN KEEP ON LIVING WITHOUT BEING FRIENDS WITH FOOLISH PEOPLE.

.....

LET'S GO, KIKU-SAN.

AH... AHH, NOTHING!

AND? WHAT'S THIS THING THAT ONLY YOU CAN DO?

D-DID YOU SEE SOMETHING MOVE OVER THERE?

そっ

KEH, IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.

IT'S... VERY SCARY, RIGHT?

STOP CLINGING TO ME!

WHAT WAS THAT...?

YES, MY FATHER WAS JAPANESE, SO...

...YOUR JAPANESE IS PRETTY GOOD...

DON'T BE...

I'M SORRY...

IDIOT'S, DON'T SCARE PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVERSATION!

THAT'S OUR JOB, THOUGH...

YURI-SAN, LOOK, LOOK, UWHOAA!!

RYOUKO-CHAN, THIS, THIS... IYAAHH!!

GIEEHH!!

AHAHA, IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE.

N-NO WAY, RYOUKO-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...

ONEE-SAN, YOU LIKE MASA-RU?!

I CAN'T SHOW THIS SIDE OF ME TO MASARU...

RYOUKO-CHAN!

THAT BRAT, HUH...? I GUESS I COULD TELL YOU MORE ABOUT HIM.

KEEP IT A SECRET.

THIS IS THE WORST...

ぱた ぱた

WAIT, I'M SCARED, I'M NOT GOOD WITH THIS, DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE, RENGEEE!

UWAAHH!

Go get your candies rewards and go home.

YOU'RE RIGHT!

わや わや

IT WAS SO SCARY!

This is the end of this year's test of courage.

All right, it seems that all of you made it.

I GUESS IT'S EASY FOR SOMEONE IN A CIRCUS TO PLAY A GHOST

AHAHA, THAT WAS SCARY!

WE'RE SORRY

YURI, THIS ONE IS DONE FOR, I'LL TAKE HIM HOME.

I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA DIE...

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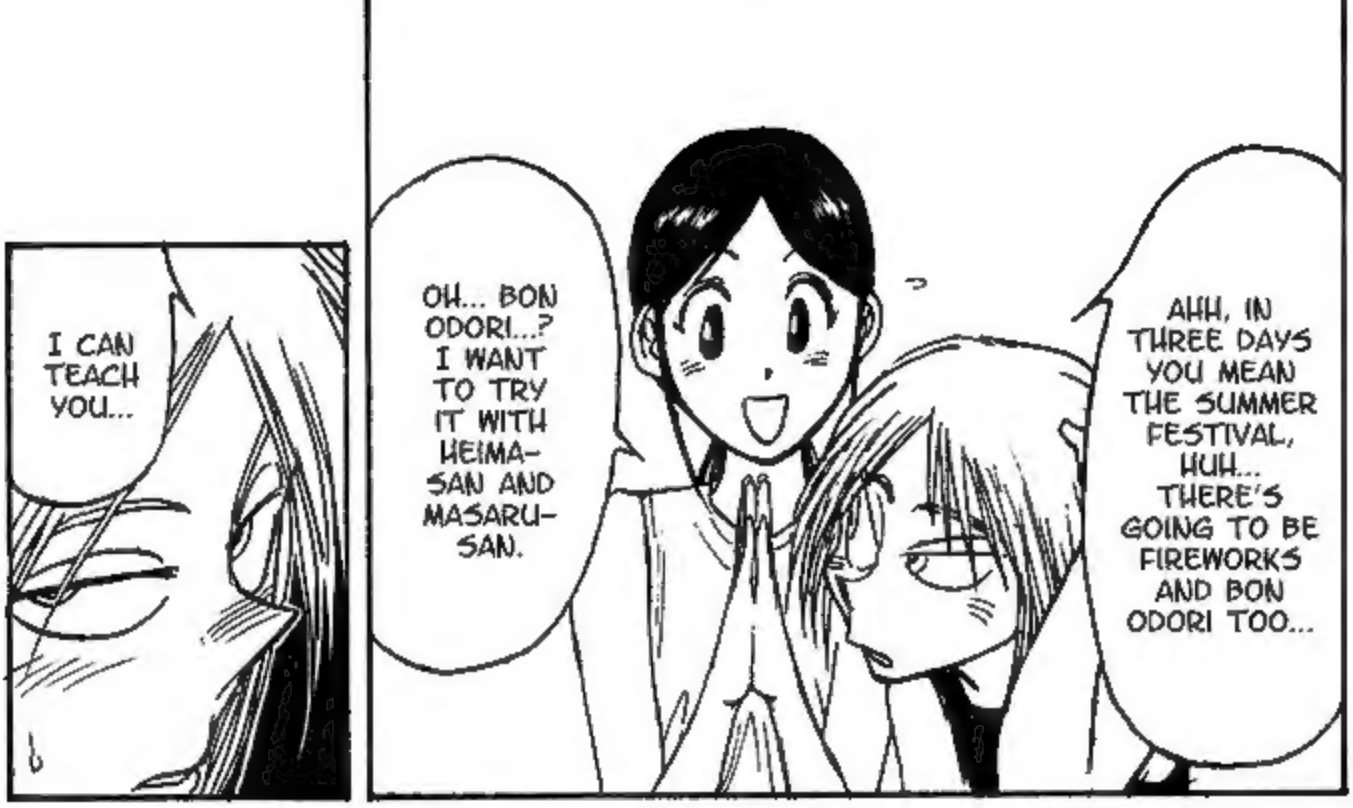
I HAD SO MUCH FUN. HEIMA-SAN, PLEASE COME TO SEE OUR CIRCUS IN THREE DAYS FROM NOW.

KEEP YOUR PROMISE, RYOUKO-SAN!!


I CAN TEACH YOU...
OH... BON ODORI...? I WANT TO TRY IT WITH HEIMA-SAN AND MASARU-SAN.
AHH, IN THREE DAYS YOU MEAN THE SUMMER FESTIVAL, HUH... THERE'S GOING TO BE FIREWORKS AND BON ODORI TOO...

GOOD NIGHT...
AH! I'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT.

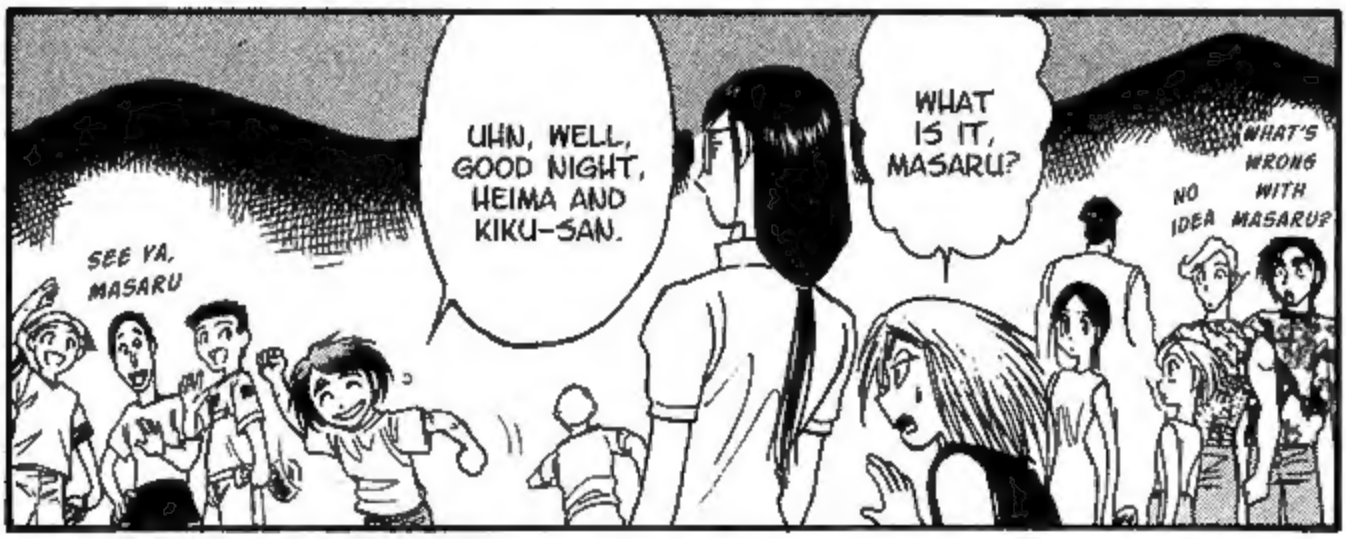
SFX: clench

I LIKE THE SWEET TABLETS
DID YOU GET YOUR CANDIES?
THERE YOU GO, OPPOSING ME AGAIN

YEAH ...

MASARU, LET'S HEAD HOME!
I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY FUN...
OH GEEZ, THAT WAS STUPID.

?
AH, GO AHEAD. I'LL BE GOING SOON.
MA-SARU, LET'S GO.


SEE YA, MASARU
UHN, WELL, GOOD NIGHT, HEIMA AND KIKU-SAN.
WHAT IS IT, MASARU?
NO IDEA
WHAT'S WRONG WITH MASARU?

A BIRD ...?

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? ALL OF SUDDEN HE...
TCH, THAT IDIOT

A MES-
SAGE... FOR
THE GAME
PLAYER...
SHH,
GRYPHON-
KUN.
MASTER,
THAT
CROW
IS...
WAIT
THERE.
IF YOU WANT
TO PROTECT
SHIROGANE...
WAIT AT THE
VILLAGE
ENTRANCE.
...A NEW
PLAYER WILL
GO AFTER YOUR
SHIROGANE...
HIS NAME IS
SYLVESTRE...
THREE
DAYS
FROM
NOW, AT
7PM...

GOT IT.

UHMM

WILL YOU BE FINE?? I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU HURT AGAIN!!

I HAVE NO CHOICE.. FIGHTING THEM TO PROTECT SHIROGANE IS MY DUTY

AGAIN? WHAT A PERSIS-TENT FELLOW

"FIGHT-ING TO PROTECT SHIROGA-NE" I WONDER WHAT THAT MEANS

IS THIS WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT? THE THING THAT ONLY HE CAN DO?

Then, the summer festival came.

IT SEEMS THERE IS A CARNIVAL TODAY THAT BEING SAID, LET'S GIVE MASARU A BLOODBATH FESTIVAL.

I HEAR SOME-THING

BAM BAM DUM DUM

THAT'S RIGHT

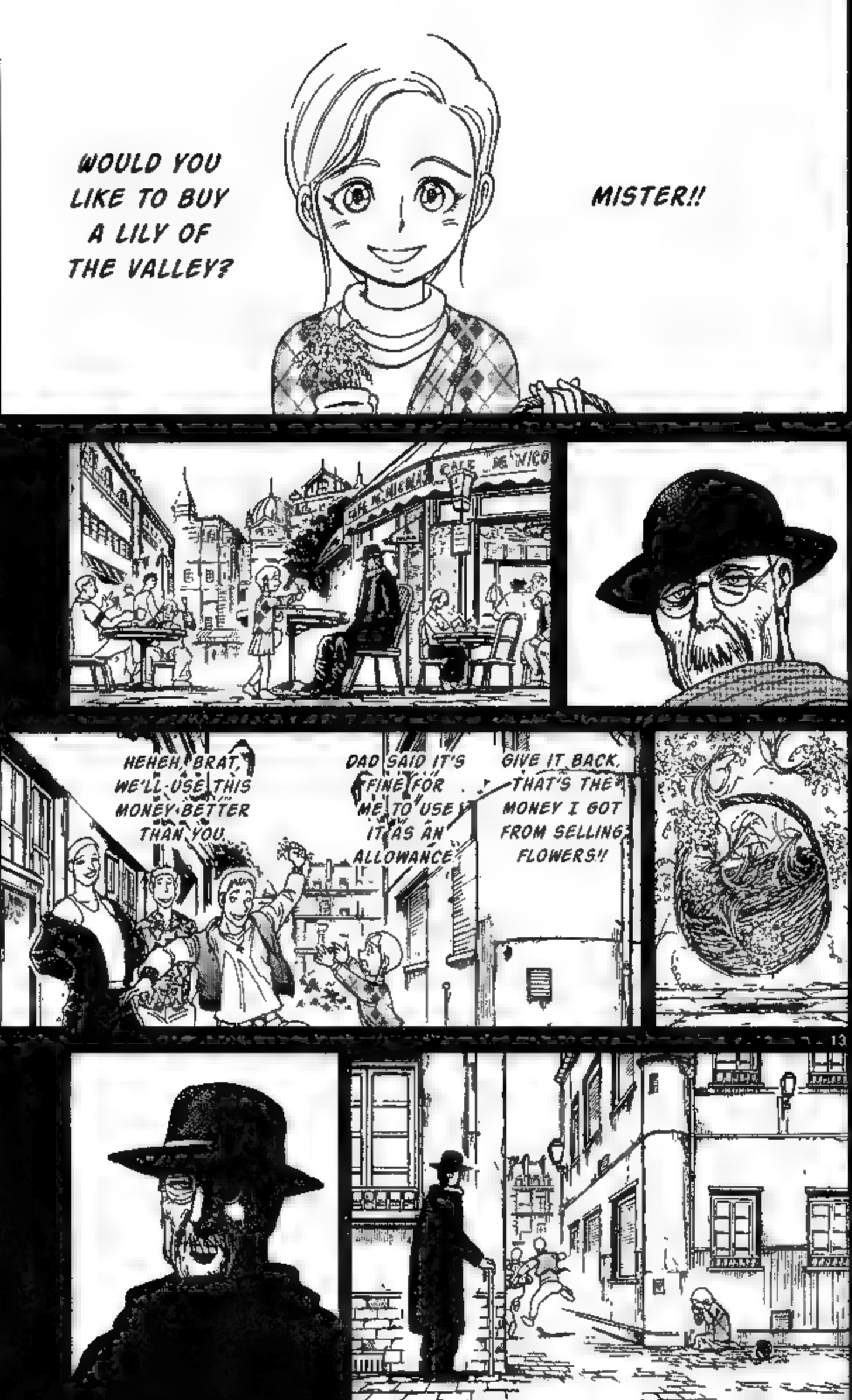
ONCE WE GET PAST THIS FOREST, WE WILL REACH KUROGA VILLAGE, RIGHT ?

GEEZ, YOUR QUESTIONS ARE ALWAYS ABOUT WHY HUMANS BAND .

A FESTIVAL, HUH... HUMANS GATHER AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THEY HAVE DON'T YOU THINK SO, COLOMBINE?

WELL...

WHAT HAPPENED DURING THE TIME YOU WERE IN PARIS?


WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY A LILY OF THE VALLEY?
MISTER!!
CAFE DE MEXICO
HEHEH, BRAT, WE'LL USE THIS MONEY BETTER THAN YOU.
DAD SAID IT'S FINE FOR ME TO USE IT AS AN ALLOWANCE.
GIVE IT BACK. THAT'S THE MONEY I GOT FROM SELLING FLOWERS!!
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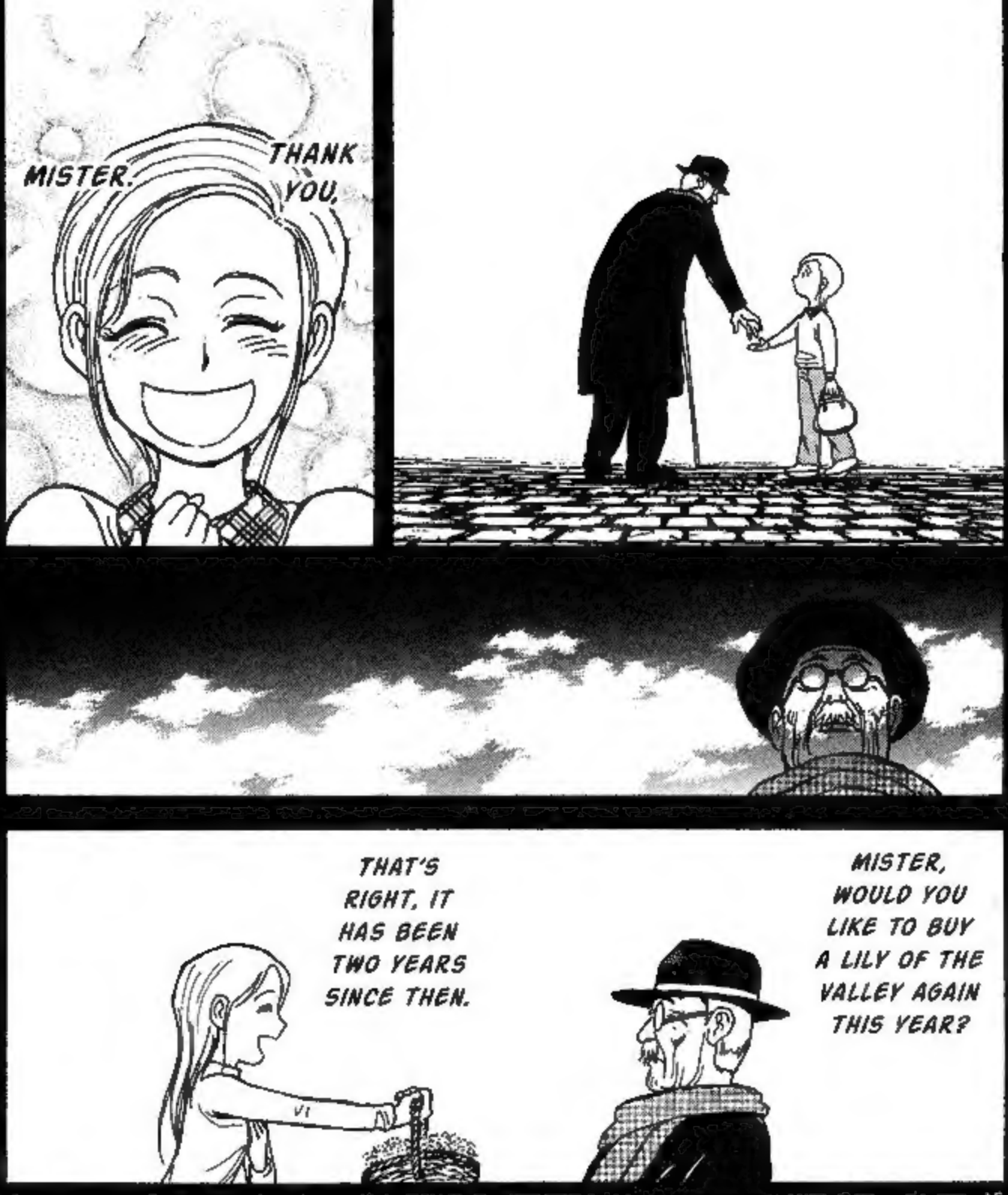
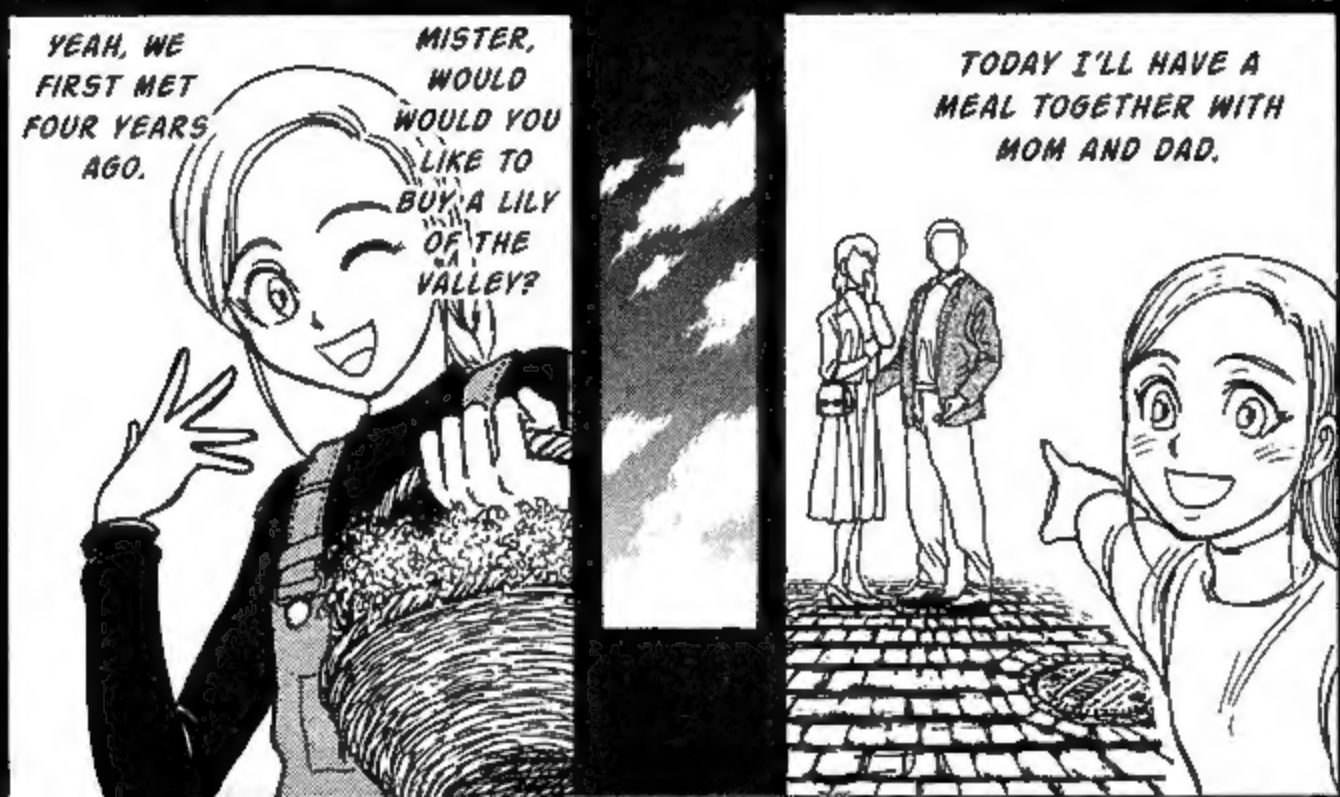
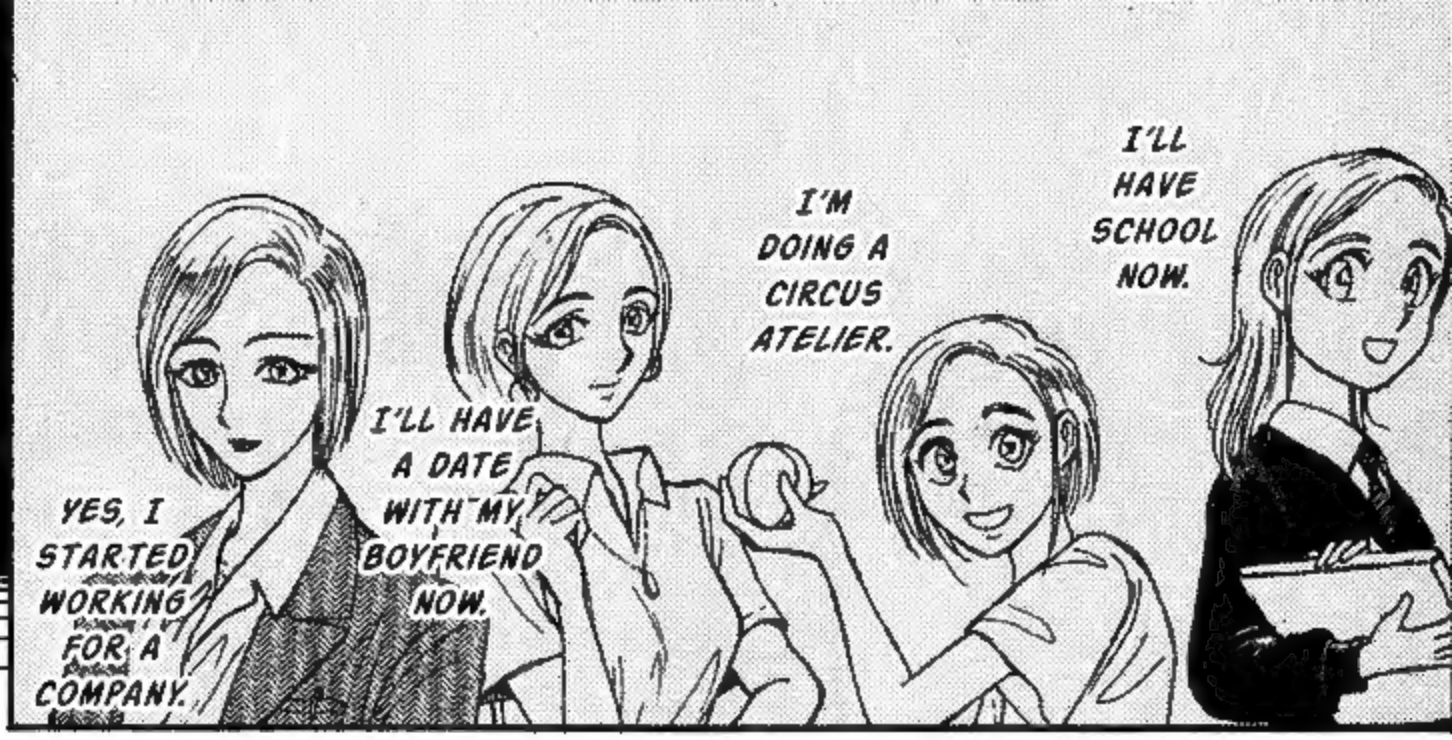

THANK YOU, MISTER.

MISTER, WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY A LILY OF THE VALLEY AGAIN THIS YEAR?
THAT'S RIGHT, IT HAS BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE THEN.

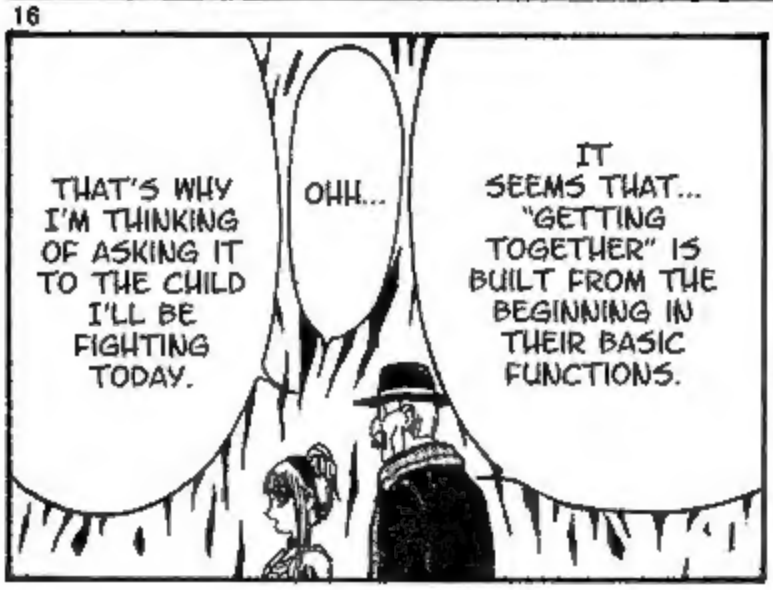

TODAY I'LL HAVE A MEAL TOGETHER WITH MOM AND DAD.
MISTER, WOULD WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY A LILY OF THE VALLEY?
YEAH, WE FIRST MET FOUR YEARS AGO.


YES, I STARTED WORKING FOR A COMPANY.
I'LL HAVE A DATE WITH MY BOYFRIEND NOW.
I'M DOING A CIRCUS ATELIER.
I'LL HAVE SCHOOL NOW.

HOWEVER, MY QUESTION DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ENTIRELY UNRELATED TO HUMAN "LAUGHTER."
YOU'RE CORRECT ...

SYLVESTRE, YOUR DUTY WAS TO BLEND IN HUMAN SOCIETY...
AND RESEARCH THEIR "LAUGHTER," RIGHT?

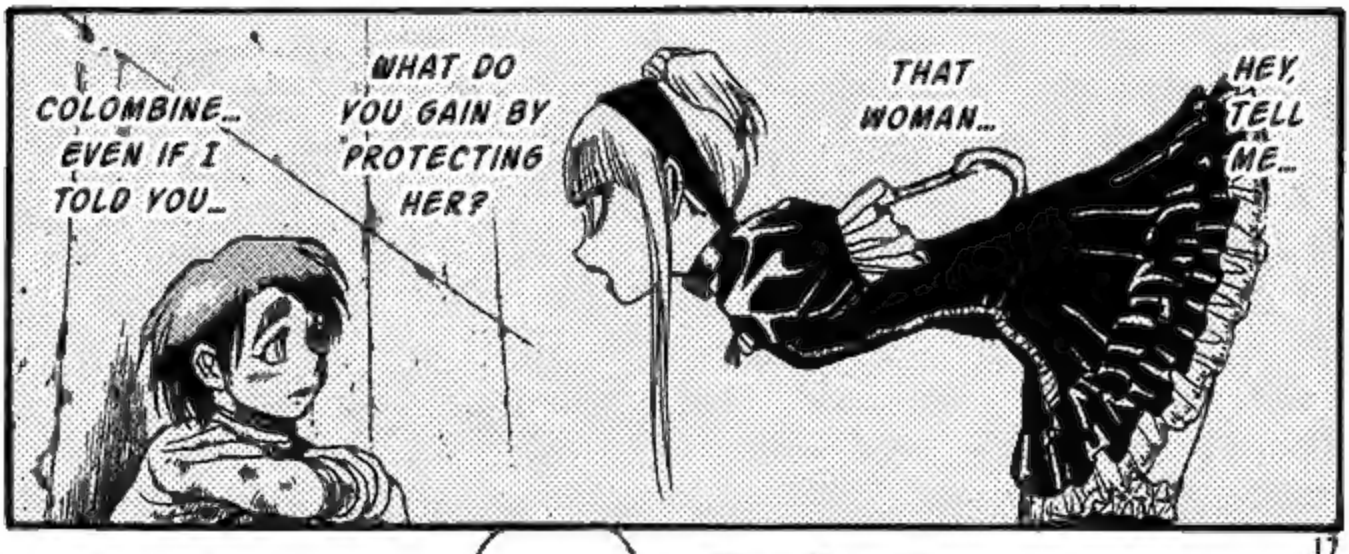
WHY HUMANS BAND, I WONDER...
SHE WOULD OFTEN LAUGH...
THAT GIRL, WHENEVER SHE WAS WITH HER "FAMILY", "FRIENDS"... ...AND "BOYFRIEND,"


THAT'S WHY I'M THINKING OF ASKING IT TO THE CHILD I'LL BE FIGHTING TODAY.
OHH...
IT SEEMS THAT... "GETTING TOGETHER" IS BUILT FROM THE BEGINNING IN THEIR BASIC FUNCTIONS.

ONE WOULD THINK IT'S BECAUSE IT OFFERS SOME KIND OF MUTUAL BENEFIT... BUT THAT'S NOT ALL, APPARENTLY.

...THAT REMINDS ME...

ALTHOUGH HE GAINS NO BENEFIT BY BEING A PLAYER IN THE GAME TO PROTECT SHIROGANE, HE'S ALWAYS SMILING IN THE END.
EHH, ASK MASARU-CHAN?

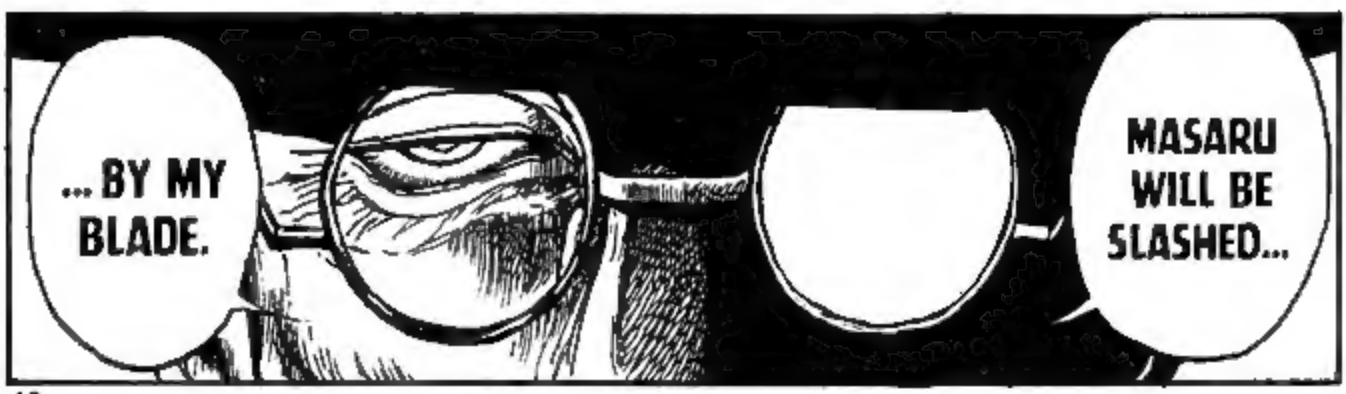

COLOMBINE... EVEN IF I TOLD YOU...
WHAT DO YOU GAIN BY PROTECTING HER?
THAT WOMAN...
HEY, TELL ME...

BUT MAKE SURE TO PLAY THE GAME SERI-OUSLY, SYLVES-TRE.
IF THAT CHILD'S INTERESTS TRANSCENDS LOSS AND GAIN,
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO AN-SWER MY QUES-TION...

YOU WOULDN'T GET IT...

OF COURSE, COLOM-BINE...

WHETHER OR NOT I GET MY ANSWER...


... BY MY BLADE.
MASARU WILL BE SLASHED...